**Read the passage.**

**Write 4 questions based on the reading.**

* One right there question (you could answer directly from the text).
* One question you could imply from the text.
* One question for the author
* One out-in-the-world big idea question

**Edward Jenner: Designer of the First Vaccine**



Edward Jenner was born on May 17th, 1749 in Gloucester, England. His father was a vicar. By the age of 14, Edward became an apprentice for a surgeon. He later trained to be a doctor in London.

In 1772 he became a surgeon in his home town. In this era many people died of diseases such as *smallpox*. It was a horrible disease. Spots filled with pus (called *postules*) would spread all over the body, making people very sick and many of them died.

Jenner realized that if you got smallpox and survived, it would be impossible to have them again.



In those days, many people believed that if you caught cowpox, you couldn’t catch smallpox. Cowpox was a mild infection that caused a few large postules on the hands. Edward Jenner thought this might be true. He started investigating the idea and doing experiments. Jenner purposely infected an 8 year old boy named James Phipps with cowpox. He inserted the pus taken from a cowpox postule into a scratch on the boy’s arm. James became mildly ill with cowpox, but was well a week later. Jenner now knew that cowpox could pass from person to person (and from cow to person).

Next Jenner gave James a small dose of smallpox by pulling a threaded needle through a postule of an infected person, then pulling the same thread through James’ skin. James Phipps never got sick with smallpox. He had been vaccinated against the disease and was now immune to it.

Because of Edward Jenner’s experiments, today people all over the world have vaccinations to prevent them from getting horrid diseases.

Learn more by checking out:

* <http://www.jennermuseum.com>
* [timeline of vaccines](http://www.historyofvaccines.org/content/timelines/jenner)
* [Edward Jenner Biography](http://www.biography.com/people/edward-jenner-9353941#awesm=~oCsqIH1Ea6B3hU)